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consensus, to build bridges between rural and urban, between conservative ideas and liberal ideas, between the small businesses and big business here in the state. I pledge to continue that. The consensus is needed in everything we do here in Legislature, but maybe even more in the Business and Labor Committee where conflict is sometimes a natural course of that committee. In addition to bringing opposing points of view together, I pledge to work hard for you. I pledge to listen to you and it would be an honor to serve as your Chair of Business and Labor.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Connealy. Are there further nominations? I appoint the following three members to act as tellers: Senator Janssen, Senator Preister, and Senator Tyson. Members, you should have little pads of blank paper near your desks. If you will merely indicate there your choice, they will be picked up. And would the tellers please come forward to count. Senator Tyson, could you please join your colleagues. Members, the Chairman of the Business and Labor Committee is Senator Connealy. Congratulations, Senator. We'll proceed to the Chairperson of the Education Committee. Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I rise to place my name in nomination for Chair of the Education Committee. Let me begin by saying that I have great respect for my fellow colleagues and especially those that have also entered this race. I want to state that I'm not running against anyone. I am here today to give you my commitment, my time and energy in serving in this position of guiding education policy. I care deeply about education and the children in our state. Education has always been a high priority for me and my family. In high school, I had the privilege of having a dedicated teacher who influenced my decision in...to pursue a degree in education. I have taught in the public schools, worked as an assistant instructor for the University of Nebraska assisting student teachers, and substitute taught for a number of years. It has been my privilege to serve on the Education Committee for the last six years. I have had the opportunity to travel across the state attending hearings and to visit and to work with administrators, teachers, students, and boards, in K through six schools, in our